

## DEBS PLOT AT CINCINNATI.

**MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD POPULISTS  
d SAY THEY WILL NOT BE FOOLED.**

**They Declare That It Is a Bryan Scheme to Induce Them to Nominate Debs and Thus Make Themselves Ridiculous—Barker and Donnelly Explain Why They Were Nominated Conditionally for President and Vice**

**Not to Be Wiped Out—Convention To-day.**  
CINCINNATI, Ohio, May 5.—The Middle-of-the-Road Populists got right down the brass tacks to-day. They started in to do business for fair. They seem to know what they are about and they have no hesitancy in saying that a lot of the wolves in the shape of the Bryan Democrats and renegade Populists like Senator Marion Butler and Senator William V. Allen have already adopted subterranean methods in the hope a "bedevilling" the Middle-of-the-

accuse Col. Bryan and his friends, Chairman Jones of the Democratic National Committee and ex-Governor William J. Stone of Missouri and their allies, Butler, Allen and Weaver of attempting to foist Eugene V. Debs upon this convention as its candidate for President.

The arrival this morning of the Hon. Wharton Barker of Philadelphia and the Hon. Ignatius Donnelly of Hastings, Minn., was followed quickly by energetic steps to bring some sort of cohesion out of what up to this morning appeared to be a sincere although conglomerate mass. Even some of the most pronounced "Pops" were discovered to be travelling of after strange gods, as Mr. Barker and Mr. Donnelly put it, in the shape of Debs, with

The scheme as to Debs, it was insisted, involved his nomination here for the purpose of discrediting the Middle-of-the-Road Populists—where, besides, morning, noon and night he

that never again will they have any entangling alliances with any political party or even with a faction of a political party. These Middle-of-the-Roaders are anti-fusionists in every breath they draw. They can't speak with passion and scarcely with decorum of Butler and Allen and Weaver, who are now in the Bryan

For the purposes of making the real situation in the Populist national party more clear, it is necessary to bring the history of that party up to date and this history was recounted

ker and Mr. Donnelly. The main facts of it are known and its specific features have been gone over time and time again by those familiar with the movements of political parties in the United States. Mr. Donnelly will be quoted first because he went into the details of the situation.

"We all know what occurred in the Populist National Convention at St. Louis in 1890," said Mr. Donnelly, "but the people of the United States are not possibly aware of all that occurred from the time that that convention adjourned after the greatest wrangle the Populist party has ever had, all because it endorsed Bryan."

at St. Louis, Senator Butler and Senator Allen and Gen. Weaver and others, were not satisfied with their work at St. Louis at that time, but for two years afterward, up to 1893, they were heard to say that never again would the Popu-

"It is not necessary to mention any name but I insist to you that some of our old-time friends have got into the hands of Democratic bribe givers. I do not mean that these men

dictated by the hope of favors to be received in the shape of offices should Bryan in 1900 be elected President of the United States. Budgets we know, can't be returned to the United States Senate from North Carolina. He's out of it. He expects Bryan to give him a job. But he

fr. home of Bryan, the Democratic candidate for renomination for President. Butler did this in late February. He by this action confirmed in our minds all that was said against him and his friends as to their work in 1896 in St. Louis.

Bryan. That was a most outrageous proceeding.  
 Butler's further conduct when our National Committee was in session at Lincoln was even more reprehensible. Without any more authority than I have to cut your throat this minute

"Naturally there was a great fuss over this line of conduct on his part, which would not

can or Democratic parties, and, yet forsooth, he attempts to play such pranks upon us. Well, there was nothing for us to do but to get together with our majority of the National Committee and call the only real Populist Convention to meet in Cincinnati. This convention

"But I wish to go back a little. As soon as we heard, along in 1897, the words of some of our old-time friends, that never again would the Populist National party hold a convention to nominate candidates for President and Vice-President, we determined to disprove

we held a National Convention of our Party in this city and at that convention Mr. Barkley was nominated for President and I was nominated for Vice-President, but these nominations were conditional and were not at a future convention. These nominations were made at the time for the purpose of showing to all the world that our purpose in holding the schemes of Butler was not to overthrow the Government.

"The convention which is to meet to-morrow may reaffirm the nominations of Mr. Barker and myself made in 1928 and then again this convention may not. Neither Mr. Barker nor myself will insist in any way upon having an election recognized growing out of the 1928 convention; this convention is free to act as it will."

of Populist delegates in that convention, but when the Democrats under Mr. Bryan and Daniel J. Cavanaugh met in Chicago the other day and conferred with Butler and Allen and Senator Dubois and Gen. Weaver arrangements were made to take 5,000 Illinois Democrats to the Sioux Falls convention for no other purpose than to bolster up that convention and make it a success.

Debs wants any recognition at our hands. The Debs scheme comes from Bryan Democrats and our old friends in the Populist party who want to belivel the situation. Mr Debs believes that every tub should stand on its own bottom. He represents a party which de-

We believe in the public ownership of utilities. There is a vast difference between the Social Democrats and Populists, and our people could not accept the doctrine of Mr. Debs' follower. Let me say in conclusion that neither Mr. Bryan, Butler, Allen nor Weaver are fooling this convention a little bit."

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